



# United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

December 6, 2004



A worker installs a glass pane for one of four skylights near the face of the Capitol on the north side of the Plaza.

## **This Week – Ongoing Work – 12/06/04 through 12/010/04**

### **CVC and East Front Plaza Highlights:**

- Milestone: The tower crane in the southwest quadrant was dismantled and removed this past weekend.
- A crew has begun to install the skylight in the grass bed on the House side of the Capitol as part of the effort to prepare the East Front Plaza for the inauguration. The glass for the small outer skylights within the grass beds and the two large skylights in the center of the Plaza will not be installed prior to the inauguration, but will receive temporary covers. These skylight openings will continue to be used to transport materials from the Plaza level to the interior of the facility.
- Stone masons have now placed more than 148,000 granite pavers on the CVC roof deck. The pavers will cover the western half of the CVC roof deck in time for the inauguration.
- All major concrete placements for the upper roof slab in the northeast and southeast quadrants have been completed and final waterproofing tests are occurring.
- Dump trucks continue to backfill the sloping pedestrian entrance zones in the eastern half of the site.
- Workers continue to build mechanical spaces, erect interior blockwork, and install utilities throughout the site.

### **East Front Extension (EFE) (Inside the Capitol)**

- Crews have placed concrete for the central grand staircase that connects the CVC to the Capitol at the Crypt level.
- Crews have completed major demolition activities to clear the way for elevators, escalators, stairwells and new mechanical systems and will continue the removal of temporary shoring steel.

### **Truck Tunnel Construction**

- The truck tunnel is open to trucks delivering materials in support of the Sequence 2 contract. The tunnel is not expected to open to general truck traffic (in support of Capitol operations) until 2006 when all interior support facilities, freight elevators and connecting corridors are completed.
- Crews will continue to place asphalt to restore Northwest Drive and the traffic lanes at the North Barricade Entrance.
- The perimeter security team continues has placed the concrete for the circular planter near the North Barricade Entrance (*see center of photo at right*).



Construction activity on the north side of the Capitol is rapidly diminishing now that backfill and paving operations above the new truck tunnel are nearly complete. All the work in this zone, including perimeter security work, will be ready to accommodate a presidential motorcade in time for the inauguration.

### **Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel**

- Waterproofing is now complete in the tunnel below First Street and workers have removed the temporary bridge on First Street SE above the tunnel zone. Asphalt paving and restoration of the First Street roadbed may be completed by the end of next week. Traffic lanes continue along the east side of First Street to facilitate the final paving activities, which will occur in two phases.
- Crews will continue to place concrete along the eastern end of the tunnel with the northwest grounds of the LOC. All concrete placements will be completed by early December.

## **Next Week – 12/13/04 – 12/17/04**

### **CVC and East Front Plaza Work**

- All of the major structural work by the Sequence 1 Contractor, Centex Construction, is expected to be complete.
- Workers will continue placing the granite paving stones on the CVC roof deck and other plaza deck work in preparation of the inauguration in January 2005.
- Crews will continue to install utilities, build mechanical spaces, place concrete, erect blockwork, and backfill the zones near the CVC entrances.

### **East Front Extension**

- Removal of temporary shoring and minor demolition activities will occur. All major steel erection and demolition has been completed.
- Crews will continue to place concrete for stairs, walls and mechanical systems.

### **Truck Tunnel Construction**

- Restoration of Northwest Drive and the Senate Plaza will continue, including the placement of asphalt, removal of fences, placement of pavers and the restoration of sidewalks.

### **Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel**

- **Concrete** placements and waterproofing will continue in various zones along the LOC tunnel route especially within the northwest grounds of the LOC. Pedestrian access and traffic flow will continue at least for one more week along the east side of the work zone.



Sunlight streams in through one of two grand skylights above the CVC's Great Hall and partially illuminates the staircase at the south end. All of the structural work in this zone is expected to be completed by the end of next week.

*If you have any questions about the Capitol Visitor Center Project, please contact Tom Fontana, CVC project communications officer, at (202) 228-1310, or by e-mail at [tfontana@aoc.gov](mailto:tfontana@aoc.gov). You can read this document and previous editions on the CVC web site at [www.aoc.gov](http://www.aoc.gov).*